

# General Assembly

# Governor's Bill No. 7160

January Session, 2019

LCO No. 4428



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

### Introduced by:

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

REP. RITTER M., 1st Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

#### AN ACT INCREASING VOTER ACCESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,
- 2 2020, the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
- 3 Secretary of the State, local or regional education officials designated
- 4 by said commissioner and local election officials designated by the
- 5 Secretary, shall develop standards for awarding academic credit to any
- 6 student of a secondary school for the performance of volunteer service
- 7 in the preparation for and conduct of any election or primary. Such
- 8 standards shall include, but not be limited to, (1) amount of credit to be
- 9 awarded, (2) documentation required to obtain such credit, (3)
- 10 curriculum or other performance measures, (4) procedures for
- 11 application to local election officials for the performance of such
- 12 volunteer service, (5) period during which such volunteer service may

LCO No. 4428 1 of 24

be performed, and (6) minimum hours of such volunteer service to qualify for such credit, provided such student shall (A) be appointed pursuant to section 9-235d or 9-258 of the general statutes or subsection (d) of section 9-436 of the general statutes, and (B) perform such volunteer service for at least eight hours on the day of such election or primary. On and after March 1, 2020, any such student who performs such volunteer service in accordance with such standards shall be eligible to receive such credit by the local board of education or regional board of education maintaining such secondary school.

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

(b) Not later than January 1, 2020, the President of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, in consultation with the Secretary of the State, a representative of The University of Connecticut, a representative of the Office of Higher Education and local election officials designated by the Secretary, shall develop standards for awarding academic credit to any student of an institution of higher education for the performance of volunteer service in the preparation for and conduct of any election or primary. Such standards shall include, but not be limited to, (1) amount of credit to be awarded, (2) documentation required to obtain such credit, (3) curriculum or other performance measures, (4) procedures for application to local election officials for the performance of such volunteer service, (5) period during which such volunteer service may be performed, and (6) minimum hours of such volunteer service to qualify for such credit, provided such student shall (A) be appointed pursuant to section 9-235d or 9-258 of the general statutes or subsection (d) of section 9-436 of the general statutes, and (B) perform such volunteer service for at least eight hours on the day of such election or primary. On and after March 1, 2020, any such student who performs such volunteer service in accordance with such standards shall be eligible to receive such credit by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut, as applicable.

Sec. 2. Section 1-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

LCO No. 4428 **2** of 24

46 In each year the first day of January (known as New Year's Day), the 47 fifteenth day of January of each year prior to 1986, and commencing on 48 the twentieth day of January in 1986, the first Monday occurring on or 49 after January fifteenth (known as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day), [the 50 twelfth day of February (known as Lincoln Day), the third Monday in February (known as [Washington's Birthday] Presidents' Day), the last 51 52 Monday in May (known as Memorial Day or Decoration Day), the 53 fourth day of July (known as Independence Day), the first Monday in 54 September (known as Labor Day), the second Monday in October 55 (known as Columbus Day), the Tuesday after the first Monday in 56 November (known as Election Day), the eleventh day of November 57 (known as Veterans' Day) and the twenty-fifth day of December 58 (known as Christmas) and any day appointed or recommended by the 59 Governor of this state or the President of the United States as a day of thanksgiving, fasting or religious observance, shall each be a legal 60 61 holiday, except that whenever any of such days which are not 62 designated to occur on Monday, occurs upon a Sunday, the Monday 63 next following such day shall be a legal holiday and whenever any of 64 such days occurs upon a Saturday, the Friday immediately preceding 65 such day shall be a legal holiday. When any such holiday, except 66 holidays in January and December, occurs on a school day, each local 67 and regional board of education may close the public schools under its 68 jurisdiction for such day or hold a session of the public schools on such 69 day, provided, if a session is held, the board shall require each school to hold a suitable nonsectarian educational program in observance of 70 71 such holiday. If a holiday in January or December occurs on a school 72 day, there shall be no session of the public schools on such day.

Sec. 3. Section 9-174 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute, special act or municipal charter to the contrary, at any regular election, or at any special election held to fill a vacancy in a state, district or municipal office, the polls shall remain open for voting from six o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m. No elector shall be permitted to cast his

LCO No. 4428 3 of 24

vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of the polls in any election unless such elector is in line at eight o'clock p.m. An election official or a police official of the municipality, who is designated by the moderator, shall be placed at the end of the line at eight o'clock p.m. Such official shall not allow any electors who were not in such line at eight o'clock p.m. to enter such line.

- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute, special act or municipal charter to the contrary, at any regular election, the location designated for election day registration pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as amended by this act, shall remain open for election day registration and voting from six o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m. No applicant for election day registration shall be admitted as an elector or permitted to cast such applicant's vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of the location designated for such purposes in any regular election unless such applicant is in line at eight o'clock p.m. An election official or a police official of the municipality, who is appointed by the registrars of voters, shall be placed at the end of the line at eight o'clock p.m. Such official shall not allow any applicants for election day registration who were not in such line at eight o'clock p.m. to enter such line.
- Sec. 4. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (a) As used in this subsection and subsections (b) to (i), inclusive, of this section, "election day" means the day on which a regular election, as defined in section 9-1, is held.
  - (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1) is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who wishes to change his or her registration to another municipality pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a) of section 9-12, may apply for admission as an elector on election day pursuant to the provisions of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this

LCO No. 4428 **4** of 24

112 section.

- (c) (1) (A) The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the completion and processing of election day registration applications on election day, provided the registrars of voters have access to the statewide centralized voter registration system from such location.
- (B) The registrars of voters may apply to the Secretary of the State, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, to designate any additional location for the completion and processing of election day registration applications on election day, provided the registrars of voters shall so apply not later than ninety days before election day. Upon approval of any such application by the Secretary, the registrars of voters may so designate any such additional location.
- (2) The registrars of voters may appoint one or more election officials to serve at <u>any</u> such location and may delegate to such election officials any of the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of voters shall supervise such election officials and train such election officials to be election day registration election officials.
- (d) Any person applying to register on election day under the provisions of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section shall make application in accordance with the provisions of section 9-20, provided (1) on election day, the applicant shall appear in person [at the] not later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance with subsection (b) of section 9-174, as amended by this act, at any location designated by the registrars of voters for election day registration, (2) an applicant who is a student enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a current photo identification card issued by [said] such institution in lieu of the identification required by section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election. If the information that the applicant is required to provide under section 9-20 and subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the applicant shall also submit identification that shows the applicant's

LCO No. 4428 5 of 24

- (e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the registrars of voters shall [check the state-wide centralized voter registration system before admitting] admit such applicant as an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.
- [(1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is not already an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant as an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.
- (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an elector in another municipality and such applicant states that he or she wants to change the municipality in which the applicant is an elector, notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register shall immediately notify the registrars of voters in such other municipality that such elector is changing the municipality in which the applicant is an elector. The registrars of voters in such other municipality shall notify the election officials in such municipality to remove such elector from the official voter list of such municipality. Such election officials shall cross through the elector's name on such official voter list and mark "off" next to such elector's name on such official voter list.
- (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not receive an election day registration ballot from the registrars of voters

LCO No. 4428 6 of 24

176 of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. For any 177 such elector, the election day registration process shall cease in the 178 municipality in which such elector now seeks to register and such 179 matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the municipality 180 in which such elector now seeks to register. After completion of such 181 review, if a resolution of the matter can not be made, such matter shall 182 be reported to the State Elections Enforcement Commission which 183 shall conduct an investigation of the matter.

(B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.]

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

- (f) [If the applicant is admitted] <u>Upon admission of the applicant</u> as an elector, the registrars of voters shall provide the elector with an election day registration ballot and election day registration envelope and shall make a record of such issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted upon the back of the envelope for an election day registration ballot and shall declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election. The affirmation shall be in the form substantially as follows and signed by the voter:
- 196 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty 197 of false statement, (perjury) that:
- 1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.
- 2. I am eligible to vote in the election indicated for today in the town indicated.
- 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and complete.
- 4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.
- 5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of

LCO No. 4428 7 of 24

such prior registration.

212

213

214

215

216

217

218

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

- 6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote otherwise than by this ballot at this election.
- 7. I completed an application for an election day registration ballot and received an election day registration ballot.
- 211 .... (Signature of voter)
  - (g) The elector shall forthwith mark the election day registration ballot in the presence of the registrars of voters in such a manner that the registrars of voters shall not know how the election day registration ballot is marked. The elector shall place the election day registration ballot in the election day registration ballot envelope provided, and deposit such envelope in a secured election day registration ballot depository receptacle. At the time designated by the registrars of voters and noticed to election officials, the registrars of voters shall transport such receptacle containing the election day registration ballots to the central location or polling place, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are counted and such election day registration ballots shall be counted by the election officials present at such central location or polling place. A section of the head moderator's return shall show the number of election day registration ballots received from electors. The registrars of voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for election day registration ballots in a depository envelope with the election day registration ballots and store such election day registration depository envelope with the other election results materials. The election day registration depository envelope shall be preserved by the registrars of voters for the period of time required to preserve counted ballots for elections.
  - (h) The provisions of the general statutes and regulations concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of absentee ballots shall apply as nearly as possible, to the custody, control and counting of election day registration ballots under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section.

LCO No. 4428 8 of 24

(i) After the acceptance of an election day registration, the registrars of voters shall forthwith send a registration confirmation notice to the residential address of each applicant who is admitted as an elector on election day under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation notice is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith take the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable, notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35.

- (j) No person shall solicit in behalf of or in opposition to the candidacy of another or himself or herself or in behalf of or in opposition to any question being submitted at the election, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any location designated by the [registrars'] registrars of voters [designated location] for election day registration balloting or in any corridor, passageway or other approach leading from any such outside entrance to any such [registrars' of voters designated] location or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach.
- Sec. 5. Section 9-211 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) In case of a vacancy in the office of senator in Congress, the Governor, except as otherwise provided by federal or state law, shall, not more than ten days after the occurrence of such vacancy, issue writs of election directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks ordering an election to be held on the one hundred fiftieth day after the issue of such writs [on a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday,] to fill such vacancy for the remaining portion of the term vacated, provided (1) except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, if such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or

LCO No. 4428 9 of 24

municipal election in November of any year, the Governor shall so issue such writs that order an election to be held on the day of such regular election, (2) except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, if such vacancy occurs after the municipal election in the year preceding the last year of the term of a senator or in the last year of the term of a senator, the Governor shall nominate a person to fill such vacancy and such nomination shall be filed with both the clerk of the Senate and the clerk of the House of Representatives. Approval of such nomination shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of each chamber of the General Assembly, or (3) if such a vacancy occurs in the year of a state election and not more than sixtytwo days prior to such election, and the office of senator in Congress for which the vacancy exists will be on the ballot during such election, the Governor shall not issue such writs and no election shall be held under this section. If the position vacated is that of member-elect, the Governor shall so issue writs and an election shall be held as provided in this section.

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

- (b) The Governor shall cause writs of election issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to be (1) conveyed to a state marshal, who shall forthwith transmit an attested copy thereof to such clerks or assistant clerks, or (2) delivered electronically to such clerks or assistant clerks. Such clerks or assistant clerks, on receiving such writs, shall warn elections to be held on the day appointed therein in the same manner as state elections are warned, which elections shall be organized and conducted as are state elections, and the vote shall be declared, certified, directed, deposited, returned and transmitted in the same manner as at a state election.
- Sec. 6. Section 9-212 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) In case of a vacancy in the office of representative in Congress from any district, the Governor, except as otherwise provided by law, shall not more than ten days after the occurrence of such vacancy issue writs of election directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks, in

LCO No. 4428 10 of 24

such district, ordering an election to be held on the sixtieth day after the issue of such writs [on a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday,] to fill such vacancy, provided (1) if such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or municipal election in November of any year, the Governor shall so issue such writs on the sixtieth day before the day of such regular election, ordering an election to be held on the day of such regular election, (2) if such a vacancy occurs after the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state election but before the regular state election, the Governor shall not issue such writs and no election shall be held under this section, unless the position vacated is that of member-elect, in which case the Governor shall issue such writs and an election shall be held as provided in this section, and (3) if a primary for such office occurs pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of section 9-450, the Governor shall, within ten days following the filing of a candidacy for nomination by a person other than the party-endorsed candidate, issue new writs of election, in place of those first issued pursuant to this section.

304

305

306

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

314

315

316

317

318

319

320

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330

331

335

336

- (b) The Governor shall cause writs of election issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to be (1) conveyed to a state marshal, who shall forthwith transmit an attested copy thereof to such clerks or assistant clerks, or (2) delivered electronically to such clerks or assistant clerks. Such clerks or assistant clerks, on receiving such writs, shall warn elections to be held on the day appointed therein in the same manner as state elections are warned, which elections shall be organized and conducted as are state elections, and the vote shall be declared, certified, directed, deposited, returned and transmitted in the same manner as at a state election.
- Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 9-215 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (b) When any such vacancy occurs, except as provided in this section, the Governor shall, within ten days after its occurrence, issue

LCO No. 4428 11 of 24

writs of election, directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks in the several towns in the district in which the vacancy exists, ordering an election to be held therein on the forty-sixth day after the issue of such writs to fill such vacancy, and cause them to be (1) conveyed to such town clerks or assistant town clerks, [. No such election shall be held on a Saturday or Sunday] or (2) delivered electronically or by any other means the Governor deems necessary to ensure such writs are received by such town clerks or assistant town clerks on the day such writs are issued. If such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth day and the forty-ninth day before the day of a regular state or municipal election in November of any year, the Governor shall so issue such writs on the forty-sixth day before the day of such regular election, ordering an election to be held on the day of such regular election. If such a vacancy occurs after the forty-ninth day before the day of a regular state election but before the Wednesday following the first Monday of January of the next-succeeding year, the Governor shall not issue such writs and no election shall be held under this section, unless the position vacated is that of member-elect, in which case the Governor shall issue such writs and an election shall be held as provided in this section.

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

349

350

351

352

353

354

355

356

357

358

359

360

361362

363

364

365

366

367

368

369

370

Sec. 8. Section 9-218 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

When there is no election of probate judge in any district by reason of two or more having an equal and the highest number of votes, or when a new probate district is created and no provision made for the election of a judge thereof, or whenever it is shown to the Governor that a vacancy is about to exist in said office by reason of the resignation of the incumbent to take effect at a future time or by reason of constitutional limitation, or when there is a vacancy in said office, the Governor may issue writs of election directed to the town clerk or clerks or assistant town clerk or clerks within such district [,] ordering an election to be held on a day named therein [, other than a Saturday or Sunday,] to fill such vacancy or impending vacancy, and (1) transmit the same to a state marshal [. Such state marshal] who shall

LCO No. 4428 12 of 24

371 forthwith transmit them to such clerk or clerks, [who] or (2) deliver 372 electronically the same to such clerk or clerks. Such clerk or clerks, on 373 receiving the same, shall warn elections to be held on the day 374 appointed in such writs, in the same manner as state elections are 375 warned. Such elections shall be organized and conducted, and the vote 376 shall be declared and returns made, certified, directed, deposited and 377 transmitted, in the same manner as at a state election. The Secretary of 378 the State, Treasurer and Comptroller shall, within thirty days after any 379 such election, count and declare the votes so returned, and notice shall 380 be given to the person declared elected, in the same manner as is 381 provided in the election of probate judges at state elections. The 382 Secretary of the State shall enter the returns in tabular form in books 383 kept by him for that purpose and present a copy of the same, with the 384 name of, and the total number of votes received by, each of the 385 candidates for said office, to the Governor within ten days thereafter. 386 The Probate Court Administrator shall cite a probate judge to act as a 387 judge in the district during any vacancy in said office in accordance 388 with section 45a-120.

Sec. 9. Section 9-19h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

389

390

391

392

393

394

395396

397

398

399

400

401

402

403

(a) The Department of Social Services, the Labor Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall make voter registration information and materials available to the public. Such information and materials shall be placed in public areas of the offices of such departments. The State Library and the libraries of the state's public institutions of higher education shall also make such information and materials available to users of the libraries. The Secretary of the State shall provide such departments, such libraries and any libraries open to the public with suitable nonpartisan literature, materials and voter registration application forms authorized under sections 9-23g and 9-23h. [The secretary shall also provide to the Department of Social Services, the Labor Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles any furniture needed to display such literature, materials and forms.]

LCO No. 4428 13 of 24

(b) (1) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section, and except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, not later than January 1, 1994, shall include an application for the admission of an elector with each application form provided for a motor vehicle operator's license and a motor vehicle operator's license renewal, which are issued under subpart (B) of part III of chapter 246, and with each application form provided for an identity card issued under section 1-1h. Such application form for the admission of an elector [(1)] (A) shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, [(2)] (B) shall not include any provisions for the witnessing of the application, and [(3)] (C) shall contain a statement, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, that [(A)] (i) specifies each eligibility requirement, [(B)] (ii) contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement, and [(C)] (iii) requires the signature of the applicant under penalty of perjury. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall accept any such completed application for admission which is submitted in person, [or by mail. The] by mail or through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Except as provided in said subdivision, the applicant shall state on such form, under penalty of perjury, the applicant's name, bona fide residence address, date of birth, whether the applicant is a United States citizen, party enrollment, if any, prior voting address, if registered previously, and that the applicant's privileges as an elector are not forfeited by reason of conviction of a felony. No Social Security number on any such application form for the admission of an elector filed prior to January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to any governmental agency. The commissioner shall indicate on each such form the date of receipt of such application to ensure that any eligible applicant is registered to vote in an election if it is received by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles by the last day for registration to vote in an election. The commissioner shall provide the applicant with an application receipt, on a form approved by the Secretary of the State and on which the commissioner shall record the date that the commissioner received the application, using an official date stamp bearing the words

404

405

406

407

408

409

410

411

412

413

414

415 416

417

418

419

420

421

422

423

424

425

426

427

428

429

430

431

432

433

434

435

436

437

438

LCO No. 4428 14 of 24

"Department of Motor Vehicles". The commissioner shall provide such receipt whether the application was submitted in person, [or] by mail or through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. The commissioner shall forthwith transmit the application to the registrars of voters of the applicant's town of residence. If a registration application is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in a regular election, the application shall be transmitted to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicant not later than five days after the date of acceptance. The procedures in subsections (c), (d), (f) and (g) of section 9-23g which are not inconsistent with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, shall apply to applications made under this section. The commissioner is not an admitting official and may not restore, under the provisions of section 9-46a, electoral privileges of persons convicted of a felony.

(2) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may use an electronic system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding admission of applicants to be electors, except that the condition that an applicant state and attest to meeting each eligibility requirement may be waived for any such eligibility requirement verified independently by said commissioner. The use of any such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 10. Section 9-19i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any change of address form submitted by a person in accordance with law for purposes of a motor vehicle operator's license shall serve as notification of change of address for voter registration for the person unless the person states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall forthwith transmit such change of address information to the registrars of voters of the town of the former

LCO No. 4428 15 of 24

address of the person. If the name of the person appears on the registry list of the town, and if the new address is also within such town, the registrars shall enter the name of such elector on the registry list at the place where he then resides. If the name of the person appears on the registry list of the town and if the new address is outside such town, the registrars shall remove the name of such elector from the registry list and send the elector the notice, information and application required by subsection (c) of section 9-35, except that if the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is using an electronic system pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of the State may prescribe alternative procedures for sending such notice and information and may waive the requirement to send such application.

- (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may use an electronic system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate the purposes of subsection (a) of this section regarding notifications of change of address for voter registration. The use of any such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.
- Sec. 11. Section 9-19k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (a) The Secretary of the State shall establish and maintain a system for online voter registration. Such system shall also permit a registered elector to apply for changes to such elector's registration. An applicant may register to vote through this system, provided the applicant's (1) registration information is verifiable in the manner described in subsection (b) of this section, and (2) (A) signature is in a database described in said subsection (b) and such signature may be imported into such system for online voter registration, or (B) signature has been electronically submitted by the applicant directly to the Secretary in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary and such signature may be used with such system.
    - (b) A state agency, upon the request of the Secretary of the State,

LCO No. 4428 16 of 24

504 shall provide any information to the Secretary that the Secretary deems 505 necessary to maintain the system for online voter registration. The 506 Secretary may cross reference the information input into the system by 507 applicants with data or information contained in any state agency's 508 database or a database administered by the federal government, or any 509 voter registration database of another state, in order to verify the 510 information submitted by applicants. The Secretary shall not use the 511 information obtained from any such database except to verify 512 information submitted by the applicant, provided the applicant's 513 signature, if part of data contained in the state agency's database, shall 514 be included as part of the applicant's information contained in the 515 system for online voter registration.

(c) The submission of an online application shall contain all of the information that is required for an application under section 9-23h, except that a signature shall be obtained (1) from another state agency's database pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or (2) electronically from the applicant directly in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary of the State.

516

517

518

519

520

521

- (d) In order for an applicant's registration or change in registration to be approved, the applicant shall mark the box associated with the following statement included as part of the online application:
- "By clicking on the box below, I swear or affirm all of the following under penalty of perjury:
- 527 (1) I am the person whose name and identifying information is 528 provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote in the State of 529 Connecticut.
- 530 (2) All of the information I have provided on this form is true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form.
- 532 (3) <u>If I have not submitted my signature electronically to the</u> 533 <u>Connecticut Secretary of the State</u>, I authorize the Department of 534 Motor Vehicles or any other Connecticut state agency to transmit to the

LCO No. 4428 17 of 24

[Connecticut] Secretary of the State or my town's registrars of voters my signature that is on file with such agency, and I understand that such signature will be used by the Secretary of the State or my town's registrars of voters on this online application for admission as an elector as if I had signed this form personally."

- (e) Upon approval of such application, the registrars of voters shall send a notice of approval pursuant to section 9-19b to the applicant.
- (f) If an applicant registers to vote pursuant to the provisions of this section after the seventh day before an election or after the fifth day before a primary, the privileges of an elector shall not attach until the day after such election or primary, as the case may be. In such event, the registrars of voters may contact such applicant, either by telephone or mail, in order to inform such applicant of the effect of such late received application and any applicable deadline for applying for admission in person.
- (g) Nothing in this section shall prevent the registrars of voters or any election official appointed by such registrars of voters to admit any applicant as an elector from utilizing the online voter registration system established pursuant to this section for the purpose of admitting such applicant on election day pursuant to section 9-19j, as amended by this act.
- (h) The Secretary of the State shall develop and implement a system through which the Secretary may permit any person to submit an electronic signature for the purpose of signing any form or application to be filed pursuant to chapters 141 to 154, inclusive. The Secretary may include in, or exclude from, such system any such form or application. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any such form or application on which any such electronic signature appears shall be deemed to have been signed in the original.
- Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 9-23n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

LCO No. 4428 18 of 24

(b) [Voter registration agencies shall] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, each voter agency shall (A) distribute mail voter registration application forms, [(2)] (B) assist applicants for [such] service or assistance [or services] provided by the agency in completing voter registration application forms, except for applicants who refuse [such] assistance in completing such forms, [(3)] (C) accept completed voter registration application forms and provide each applicant with an application receipt, on which the agency shall record the date that the agency received the application, using an official date stamp bearing the name of the agency, and [(4)] (D) immediately transmit all such applications to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicants. The agency shall provide such receipt whether the application was submitted in person, [or by mail] by mail or through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. If a registration application is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in a regular election, the application shall be transmitted to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicant not later than five days after the date of acceptance. [The] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the voter registration agency shall indicate on the completed mail voter registration application form, without indicating the identity of the voter registration agency, the date of its acceptance by such agency, to ensure that any eligible applicant is registered to vote in an election if it is received by the registration agency by the last day for registration to vote in an election. If a state-funded program primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home, the agency shall provide such voter registration services at the person's home. The procedures in subsections (c), (d), (f) and (g) of section 9-23g that are not inconsistent with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, shall apply to applications made under this section. Officials and employees of such voter registration agencies are not admitting officials, as defined in section 9-17a, and may not restore, under the provisions of section 9-46a, electoral privileges of

567

568 569

570

571

572

573

574

575

576

577

578

579

580

581

582

583

584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591

592

593 594

595

596

597

598

599

600

601

LCO No. 4428 **19** of 24 602 persons convicted of a felony.

603

604

605

606

607

608

611 612

613

614

615

616

617

618

619

620

621

622

623

624

625

626

627

628

629

630

631

632

633

(2) Each voter registration agency may use an electronic system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding applications for voter registration. The use of any such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 13. Section 9-230 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

A voter registration agency, as defined in section 9-23n, as amended by this act, shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, and shall (1) distribute with each application for service or assistance provided by the agency, and with each recertification, renewal or change of address form relating to such service or assistance, a mail voter registration application form approved by the Secretary of the State, or (2) provide, during each application for such service or assistance and each recertification, renewal or change of address relating thereto, an opportunity to apply for voter registration through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of said section, unless the applicant declines to register to vote pursuant to the provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time. Such declination shall be in writing, except in the case of an application for service or assistance provided by a library, or a recertification, renewal or change of address form relating to such library service or assistance. Such voter registration agency shall provide each applicant to register to vote the same degree of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration application form as is provided by the agency with regard to the completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.

Sec. 14. Section 9-23p of the general statutes is repealed and the

LCO No. 4428 **20** of 24

- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- Each public institution of higher education shall (1) distribute mail
- ovoter registration application forms, (2) provide opportunities for voter
- 637 registration through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2)
- of subsection (b) of section 9-23n, as amended by this act, and [(2)] (3)
- 639 assist applicants who request assistance in completing such voter
- 640 registration application forms or registering through such electronic
- 641 system.
- Sec. 15. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2019) (a) (1) Not later than May first
- in any year in which a federal decennial census has been taken and in
- 644 which the United States Census Bureau counted any incarcerated
- 645 individual as a resident of the town in which such incarcerated
- individual's respective correctional facility is located, the Department
- of Correction shall deliver to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
- Management in such form as the secretary shall prescribe:
- (A) A unique identifier for each incarcerated individual subject to
- 650 the jurisdiction of the department on the date for which the decennial
- 651 census reports population;
- (B) The street address of the correctional facility in which such
- 653 individual was incarcerated at the time of such report;
- 654 (C) The residential or other address of such individual prior to
- 655 incarceration, if known;
- (D) An indication of whether such individual has attained the age of
- eighteen years;
- (E) Such individual's race and whether such individual is of
- 659 Hispanic or Latino origin, if known; and
- (F) Any additional information the secretary may request pursuant
- 661 to law.
- 662 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the

LCO No. 4428 **21** of 24

information required to be provided under this subsection shall not include the name of any incarcerated individual or in any other way allow for the identification of any such individual from such information. Such information shall be confidential and not otherwise disclosed, except to the secretary for the purposes of subsection (c) of this section, or as aggregated by census block for the purposes of subsection (d) of this section.

- (b) Not later than May first in any year in which the federal decennial census has been taken and in which the United States Census Bureau counted any incarcerated individual as a resident of the town in which such incarcerated individual's respective correctional facility is located, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall request each agency that operates a federal correctional facility in this state to provide the secretary with a report including the information listed in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.
- (c) (1) For each individual included in a report received under subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall determine the geographic units for which population counts are reported in the federal decennial census, which units contain the address of the facility in which such individual was incarcerated, and such individual's residential or other address as listed in such report.
- (2) For each individual included in a report received under subsection (a) or (b) of this section, if such individual's residential or other address is known and in this state, the secretary shall adjust such information to:
- (A) Ensure that all relevant population counts reported in the census are as if such individual resided at such address on the date for which the census reports population; and
- (B) Ensure that such individual is not represented in any applicable population count reported in the federal decennial census for the geographic units that include the facility in which such individual was

LCO No. 4428 **22** of 24

incarcerated on the date for which the census reports population.

- (3) For each individual included in a report received under subsection (a) or (b) of this section whose residential or other address is unknown or not in this state, and for each individual reported in the census as residing in a federal correctional facility for whom a report was not provided, the secretary shall adjust such information to:
- (A) Ensure that such individual is not represented in any applicable population count reported in the federal decennial census for the geographic units that include the facility in which such individual was incarcerated on the date for which the census reports population; and
- (B) Ensure that such individual is counted as part of a state unit not tied to a specific geographical location, in the same manner that an individual with an unknown state of residency is counted, including, but not limited to, military and federal government personnel stationed abroad.
- (d) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall prepare and publish such information adjusted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section not later than thirty days after the publication of the redistricting data for this state by the United States Census Bureau in the year following the taking of the federal decennial census, and such adjusted information shall be the basis for determining state assembly and senatorial districts, as well as municipal voting districts. No residence at an unknown geographical location within the state under subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section may be used to determine the average population of any set of districts. The secretary shall notify each municipality that such information shall be used for the purposes of determining municipal voting districts.
- (e) The Department of Correction shall determine the residential or other address of each individual committed to the custody of the department on or after January 1, 2020, and maintain an electronic record of such address. Such record shall contain, at a minimum, the last-known residential or other address of each individual prior to

LCO No. 4428 23 of 24

## 727 incarceration.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	from passage	1-4
Sec. 3	from passage	9-174
Sec. 4	from passage	9-19j
Sec. 5	from passage	9-211
Sec. 6	from passage	9-212
Sec. 7	from passage	9-215(b)
Sec. 8	from passage	9-218
Sec. 9	from passage	9-19h
Sec. 10	from passage	9-19i
Sec. 11	from passage	9-19k
Sec. 12	from passage	9-23n(b)
Sec. 13	from passage	9-23o
Sec. 14	from passage	9-23p
Sec. 15	July 1, 2019	New section

# Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

LCO No. 4428 **24** of 24